

Feast of Tabernacles

Gatlinburg, TN

2025

A sunset over a mountain

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*Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion!  
Declare His deeds among the people.*

*Psalms 9:11*



**2025 Festival Brochure Announcements**

Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles - Gatlinburg 2025.

God has once again placed His name here in the Great Smoky Mountains. As Psalm 9:11 reminds us: “Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion! Declare His deeds among the people.” Together, let’s lift our voices in praise and be a shining example to the community around us.

With nearly 500 brethren gathered here, each of us has the opportunity to help make this the “best Feast ever”—both spiritually and physically. Our speakers and presenters are spiritually prepared to share encouraging messages about the coming Kingdom of God under the leadership of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We’ll all have some discretionary or “free” time, but remember that God calls us to set priorities. He created the physical for us to enjoy, yet the spiritual is what we are to pursue above all. Let’s be careful not to let physical activities overshadow our spiritual responsibilities—attending every service, praying daily, and learning from Him. In everything, may we put God and His will first, bringing glory and honor to His name.

Serving others always enriches our Feast experience making it even more joyful. Many of you are already serving in specific roles, but there’s also a way we can all serve—by looking out for one another. Be aware of the needs of your brothers and sisters. Make sure no one is left out. If you have excess second tithe, please consider making a donation to the “Family Helping Family” fund. This helps make sure everyone has the chance to participate in all activities. And if you see someone sitting alone, take a moment to invite them to share a meal or join you in fellowship.

Let’s continue to pray for safety, good weather, God’s blessing, and inspiring messages that point us to His coming Kingdom. May this Feast draw us closer to our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, as we rejoice before Him together.

Have a wonderful Feast!

With Love & Joy,

Joshua & Lizzy Creech

**Housing Survey and General Survey**

To increase participation, we are using two methods for members to fill out a Feast survey.

Both the housing survey and the general survey can be filled out by using your phone and the QR code or fill out the handout during the Feast

On the 7th day of the Feast, Monday, October 13th, we will take about 5-10 minutes during announcements to complete both surveys. Or, if you prefer to fill out the a paper survey, they will be distributed at that time.

The annual housing survey greatly assists in future negotiations and provides legitimate feedback while the general survey will greatly assist in future planning overall.

Please take a few minutes to fill out both surveys.

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| For the Housing Survey use this:  A qr code on a white background  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | For the General Survey use this:  A qr code on a white background  AI-generated content may be incorrect.  8 |

11

**Cards for Those Unable to Attend the Feast**

There are brethren who are unable to attend the Feast of Tabernacles this year due to life circumstances. Handmade cards have been provided for you to write words of encouragement for those unable to be here with us. The cards are located on the tables near the information table and will be available for you to sign until Thursday after services. If you would like to make a donation for postage, please include that in the box designated Family Helping Family. Thank you very much for your contribution in making this project a success!

REMINDER: A great deal of time and love went into making these beautiful cards. Please do not bring food or beverages to the tables with the large cards. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

**Family Helping Family Program**

God intends the Feast to be a time of spiritual and physical rejoicing. Although we all have the opportunity for a spiritually rewarding Festival, we would like to make it possible for everyone to enjoy Feast-time physical activities. If you have extra second tithe, perhaps you might consider making a donation in order to help other brethren and families participate in our group activities including the Family Day or teen activities, etc. A box for donations will be located at the Information Booth.

After the Feast, if there are additional contributions beyond the donations, the excess will be applied to the general fund for the Gatlinburg Feast site to cover the auditorium, youth instruction material, and other such expenses required for keeping the Feast of Tabernacles.

Gold

**2025 Festival Bulletin Announcements**

**Seating**

1. The meeting hall will open one hour before services each day. Please do not reserve seating earlier unless you have been given permission to do so.
2. Reserve seats only for yourself and your family and friends who are sitting with you. Please do not reserve seats for other families.
3. Honor all “Reserved Seating” signs. These are reserved for specific individuals/families to better fulfill their serving responsibilities (song leaders, ushers, staff or others deemed necessary).

**Feast Office**

The Feast office will be open 30 minutes before and after services.

**Mothers’ Room**

In the gym alcove—blocked off by pipe and drape. In order to allow others to use the rooms, please return to your regular seating when you are finished.

Please keep talking and noise to a minimum as a courtesy to those listening to services or trying to get infants to sleep. All parents are reminded to take care of disciplining in private – not public facilities.

**Anointing**

If you would like to be anointed before or after services for non-contagious sickness, come by **Team Room 2.** An elder will be available one hour before and thirty minutes after services. If you need anointing or counseling at other times, please call (833-335-3377).

Silver

For anybody who is contagious, please do not come to services, even to be anointed, and do not attend activities where others could be infected. Instead, call the phone number above for anointing, and wait for recovery before attending activities again.

**Holy Day Offerings**

The Holy Day offerings will be taken up on the first Holy Day service and the morning service of the 8th Day. Please remember your envelope. You may obtain one from an usher at services. Checks should be made payable to “United Church of God” or “UCGIA.”

**Hymns**: Singing praises to God is the beginning of our services honoring God. Please arrive to services and take your seats before hymns begin.

**During Church Services**: With a large number of members coming together for the Feast of Tabernacles, we often need to address extra people seated in or wandering through the lobby and/or the back of the meeting hall. While there may be a reason for a few people in these areas during services, it is generally inappropriate to be fellowshipping or wandering around in the lobby or the back of the hall while services are being conducted. Ushers and security personnel will be assigned to limit unnecessary traffic in these areas. Please cooperate by remaining in your seat during services unless given an assignment or having a need that would require otherwise.

**Children**: Children are a great blessing! However, parents should focus on the need to train their children to sit or be occupied quietly during services. It does take work, effort and patience. If a child’s behavior becomes disruptive, one of the parents should as quietly as possible, take the child from services, and tend to his or her needs.

**Congregation’s Response**: On the other hand, as parents are working with their small children, we all should show patience and support for them.

Brown

**Ambassador Bible College**

The Ambassador Bible College (ABC) is an educational institution which conducts an exciting nine-month study of God’s Word.  ABC is sponsored by the United Church of God and located at our Home Office in Milford, Ohio. The ABC curriculum covers the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and has other Bible-related classes which place emphasis on building godly character, leadership development, Godly service and how to live as a Christian in this increasingly secular world.

For any who are interested in learning more about ABC or attending in future years, there will be a brief meeting Sunday, October 12th (15 minutes after services) in **Team Room 1.**

To download an application please go to abc.ucg.org and download your application to ABC.

**Bible Study**

**Title**: The Importance of Zion

Zion is mentioned many times in the Bible. In the past it was a fortress and the capitol city of King David. This little plot of land is important in understanding biblical prophecy and answering the question of who owns Jerusalem.

Gary Petty, who is a pastor in Tennessee, southeast regional pastor, ABC instructor, BT presenter, council member and author.

Friday, October 10th, 7:00pm—8:00pm

Black

**Cell Phones**: Cell phones should be turned off or put on vibrate during Church services. If it is necessary to answer a call during services, you should do so outside the meeting hall so as not to disturb others around you.

**Clothing**: What kind of clothing is appropriate for Church services? We should come before God wearing our best. Our attire should be modest and such that shows the proper respect for worshiping before God.

**Applause for Special Music**

“The United Church God, an International Association requests that you not applaud for sermonettes, sermons or special music during the Feast. One exception to this request continues to be the performance of the children’s choir. In general, it can be shown that the Bible makes a distinction between music for worship and music for celebrating and entertaining. There is no biblical statement prohibiting applause, but since special music is a part of our service worshiping God, we request that you refrain from applauding and instead offer any encouragement or appreciation to the individuals on a personal level. A number of musicians and singers have stated a preference for no applause, wishing only to contribute to our worship of God. To those who feel this way, it is embarrassing to receive applause for their efforts.”

**Merchandising**

It is inappropriate to sell, display or distribute at our information tables or booths anything of a commercial or fund-raising nature without prior approval.

**Literature Distribution**

Only those materials approved by the Festival Coordinator may be distributed at the Feast sites. No other religious material, or any

political materials, can be displayed or distributed at any Festival site of the United Church

Purple

**Youth Booklets**

All attendees who registered for the Feast may pick up their Festival Youth booklets at the information table. There are three separate booklets for grades K-1, grades 2-3 and grades 4-6.

Please give your child’s name to the volunteer and they will check off your child’s name when they receive their book. If you did not register for the Feast, please wait until all other books have been passed out and then if there are any extra you may pick up one for your child. You may also print out the booklets from the UCG website if there are not any extra booklets available. There will be a table by the information table where children can show a volunteer they have completed a page of their booklet each day and receive a prize.

**Stuffed Animals for Children**

God's coming Kingdom will be a time when little children can play with many different animals without fear. To help illustrate this, as well as God's love for little children, we are hosting a stuffed animal day for preteen children.

If **ANY** member would like to participate, we invite you to purchase a new stuffed toy animal to donate for children ages 12 and under. The stuffed animals can be dropped off along the side of the stage before and after services between Friday and Sunday, or Monday before services.

 After services on **Monday, October 13th** the children will be invited by family to choose ONE animal for each child as a gift from the congregation. All children who wish to choose a stuffed animal gift should gather after services per the verbal instructions during announcements. All children should be accompanied by a parent. Please go through the line as a family.

Parents, we ask you to talk to your young children about having at least a few possible animals in mind, in case someone has already selected your child's preference before they have their turn. Mothers with small babies or who are "expecting" are also invited to participate.

Red

**Youth Education Classes**

The Festival Youth Instruction lessons are available on our UCG website, if you’d like to look at them ahead of time. We encourage the children to show their take home crafts and discuss with their parents what they learned in class each time. Classes will begin at 9:30am and children will return to services during announcements.

Children are not required to bring anything to class with them. Teachers will have supplies for each child to use during Youth Instruction.

A snack will be provided during class, please inform the registration team if your child has any food allergies.

Wednesday, October 8th and Sunday, October 12th beginning at 9:30 am. Please plan on picking up your child during announcements.

School grades K – 2, Team Room 1

School grades 3 – 6, Bullpen

**Children’s Choir**

Children’s Choir practice will be held on the stage Wednesday after services and Thursday morning at 9:00. Children’s Choir is intended for Sabbath School aged children, however, if your child is slightly younger and can exhibit appropriate behavior on stage, they are welcome to sing. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Creech.

Orange

**Etiquette for Services**

Consider these guidelines, based on biblical principles of courtesy and respect:

**Be on Time**: While we all understand that unforeseen circumstances can occasionally make someone late for services, making a habit of arriving late without good reason can show a lack of respect—both toward God and toward your fellow brethren. Let’s do our best to arrive on time each day, ready to worship together and give God our full attention.

**Fragrance Allergies**

Over the last few years our society has significantly increased with those suffering from fragrance allergies. We do not want to isolate those members into private rooms to listen to services. Unless there is a special need or emergency, we are asking members to refrain from wearing perfumes and colognes to services and indoor activities. Your cooperation will allow all to attend services.

**Song Leaders**

Chad Browning

Nathan Blaes

Zarek Dowd

**Speakers**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dan Baker | Carl Kinsella |
| Steven Britt | James Malizia |
| Sal Cimino jr | Stan Martin |
| Joshua Creech | Gary Petty |
| Chandler Dowd | Chris Rowland |
| Frederick Ehle | Christopher Salva |
| Jim Gillespie | Warner Schmidt |
| Wiley Greene  William Hewitt | Benjamin Shoemaker  Brian Shaw |

Yellow

**Young Adults Bible Study**

**Title:** Defining Your Personal Vision—and Aligning it With God’s

During the Feast of Tabernacles, God shares with us His vision for the future and for His Son. We should be motivated by the invitation of becoming sons and daughters in His Kingdom. God wants us to experience the vision that He has at the Feast of Tabernacles.

The Bible Study location details will be announced.

**Young Adult Activity**

Information for the Young Adult Activity will be announced.

**Family Day and Dance**

Have you ever wanted to feel like David and take down a “100 Foot Goliath”? Have you ever wanted to spike a volleyball at your festival coordinator or have a friendly Feud with your spiritual family? Well, now is your chance!

Come one come all, big or small, and join us for our family day festivities! There will be bouncy houses, volleyball, Family Feud, shaved ice and food available for purchase. Later in the evening, we will have our family dance. Be sure to sign up for the volleyball tournament at the information table if you want to play!

Contact Nathan Creech with any questions.

(513) 374-8339

Blue

**Teen Activity**

NASCAR SpeedPark Smoky Mountains, October 10th, 2:30-5:30. The cost is $34.99 (plus taxes) for unlimited play on up to 7 go-kart tracks, 2 mini golf courses, bumper boats and rides. Food will be available for purchase.



**WHERE MAGICAL MOMENTS BECOME TREASURED MEMORIES**

[1545 Parkway Sevierville, TN 37862](https://www.google.com/search?q=NASCAR+SpeedPark+Smoky+Mountains&ludocid=16718430423025734586&gsas=1&lsig=AB86z5XkJTFepRwzIB9Q7XKec5Mp&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjX3dPFvfr-AhWsnGoFHUNsAnMQoAJ6BAgNEAQ&biw=1728&bih=897&dpr=2)

[(865) 908-5500](tel:8659085500)

**Teen Bible Study**

**Title**: The Struggle is Real

God has never intended for our life to be a piece of cake. Throughout life, we will experience many up and down which we are able to get through with God’s help. We don’t always understand why things happen, but with knowing the final outcome, we know His plan.

Joshua Creech, pastor, will present the study on Saturday, October 11th at 12:00am in Team Room 1

Green

**2025 Feast of Tabernacles Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Monday**  **10/6** | **Tuesday**  **10/7**  **HOLY DAY** | **Wednesday**  **10/8**  **2nd Day** | **Thursday**  **10/9**  **3rd Day** | **Friday**  **10/10**  **4th Day** | **Saturday**  **10/11**  **5th Day** | **Sunday**  **10/12**  **6th Day** | **Monday**  **10/13**  **7th Day** | **Tuesday**  **10/14**  **8th Day** |
| **Morning** |  |  | Youth Instruction  9:30 am  **Services**  **10am** | Children’s Choir Practice  9 am– 9:30 am  **Services**  **10am** | **Services**  **10am** |  | Youth Instruction  9:30 am  **Services**  **10am** | **Services**  **10am** | **Services**  **10am** |
| **Afternoon** | Dept. Head Meeting  12:30pm | **Services**  **2pm** | Children’s Choir Practice  (15 minutes after Services) | Family Day  1:00 – 5:00  Bible Talk  3:00 – 3:20 | Teen Activity NASCAR Speedpark  2:30 – 5:30  Young Adult Activity  Senior Lunch 1:00 | Teen Bible Study 12:00-1:00  **Services**  **2pm** | ABC Meeting (15 minutes after services) |  | **Services**  **2:30pm** |
| **Evening** | **Services**  **7:30pm**  Sunset 7:10pm | Sunset 7:08pm |  | Family Dance  7:30 – 9:30pm | Bible Study 7:00 – 8:00pm  Sunset 7:04pm |  |  | Sunset 7:00pm | Sunset 6:59pm |